

Epidemiology, trauma care and service utilization – a Scandinavian perspective?

Expert meeting on the
prevalence of sexual abuse

Berlin

10/12 2014

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Professor



Today's presentation

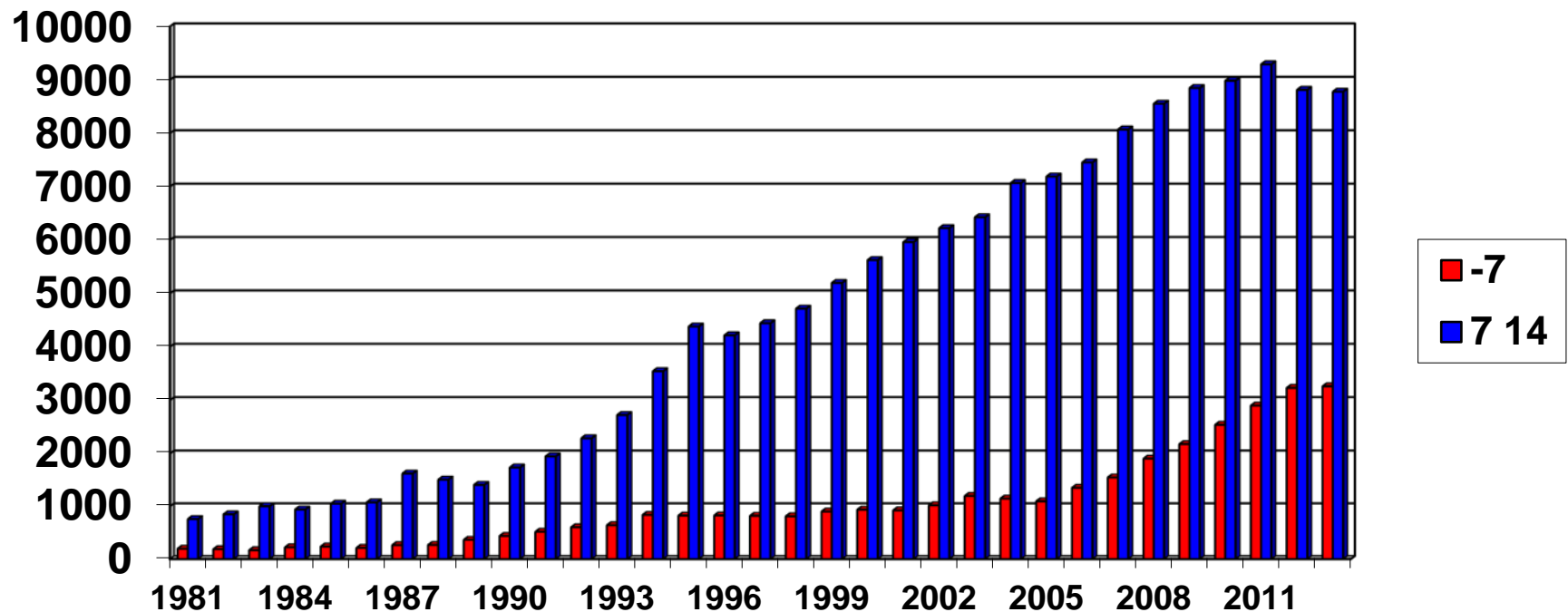
- **Epidemiology**

Incidence and prevalence

- **Service utilization and trauma care**



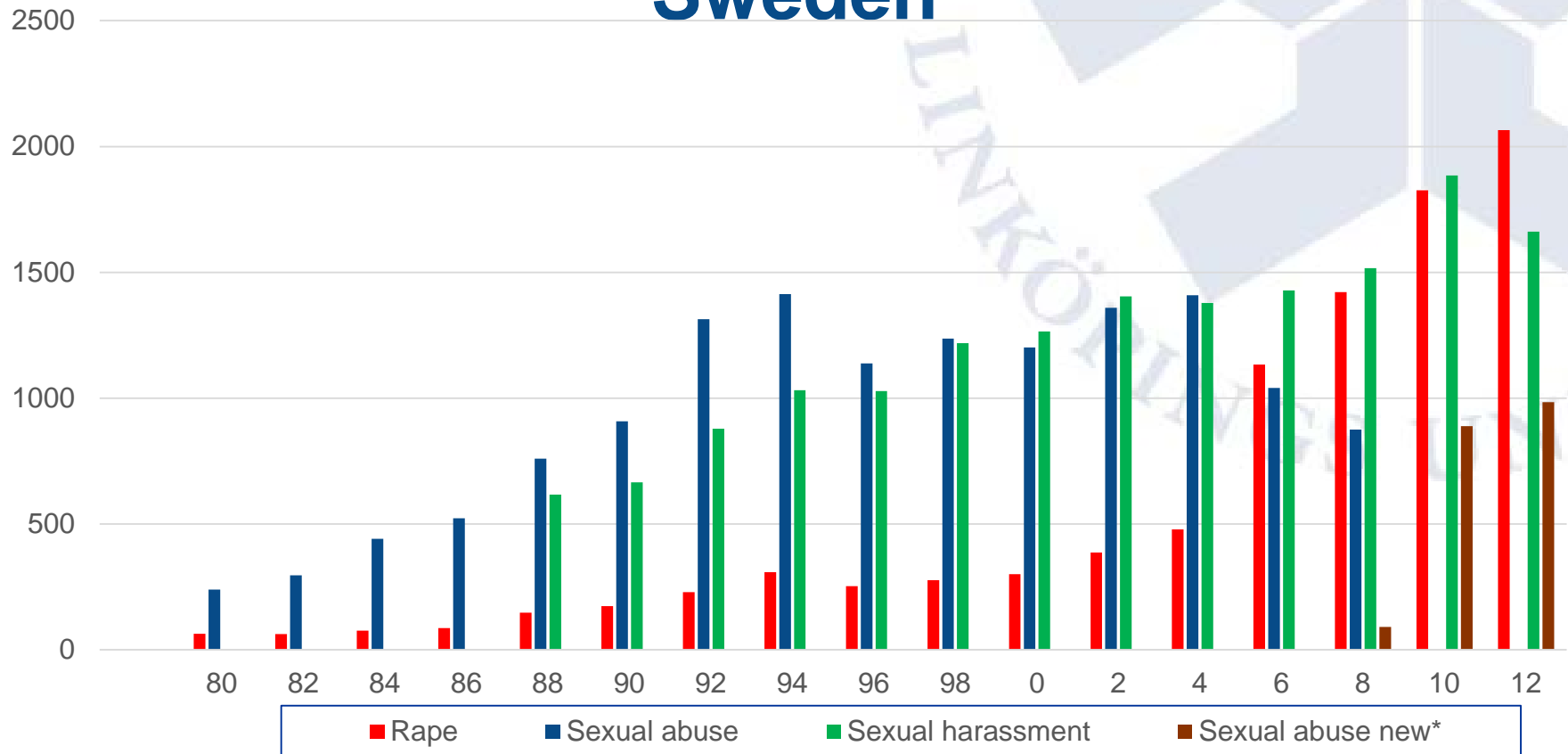
Reported suspected cases of child abuse in Sweden, 0-14 years of age



Together 2013: 12 041 (3 261/8 780)



Police reported suspected sexual abuse crimes against children 0-15 years of age, Sweden



Total 2013: 4959



Denmark and Iceland

Year	Researcher	N	RR %	Age	Contact abuse	Penetrating abuse
2002	Helweg-Larsen & Larsen	5831	81	<15 No diff	5.7/14.7	4.2/9.2
2008	Helweg-Larsen & Larsen	4093	81	<15 no diff	4/17	n.r./n.r
2004	Gault-Sherman et al	8618	80	<16 No diff	6.3/17.6	1.6/4.3



Finland

Year	Researcher	N	RR %	Age	Contact abuse	Penetrating abuse
1988	Sariola & Uutela	7435	99	<15-16 Yes diff	3.3/7.6	n.r./ 4.8
2005/06	Laaksonen et al	12922	36-45	Childhood No diff	4.3/9.3	n.r./n.r.
2008	Ellonen et al	5762	80-90	<15-16 Yes diff	2.1/7.8	n.r./ 4.4



Norway

Year	Researcher	N	RR %	Age	Contact abuse boys/girls	Penetrating Abuse Boys/girls
1990	Bendixen et al	996	75	<18 No diff	n.r./n.r	0.6/4.5
1993	Tambs	1833	37	<18 No diff	7/13	3.3/7.5
1998	Mossige	710	78	<18-20 No diff	n.r./n.r.	0.3/2.4
2000/01	Ystgaard et al	4060	91	<15-16 No diff	2.5/10.7	n.r./n.r
2004	Mossige & Abrahamsen	4911	82	<18-19 No diff	n.r./n.r.	6.8/10.5
2000/06	Lukasse et al	55776	44	<18 No diff	n.r./6.9	n.r./n.r
2007	Mossige & Huang	7033	77	<18-19 No diff	11.8/28.5	6.5/12.0
2007	Bendixen & Kennair	1610	49	<16-19 No diff	n.r./n.r.	1.5/9.9
2010/11	Steine et al	706	49	<16 No diff	3.2/18.3	1.6/11.4
2013	Thoresen et al	4527	12	<18 No diff	n.r./n.r.	2.1/7.4



Sweden

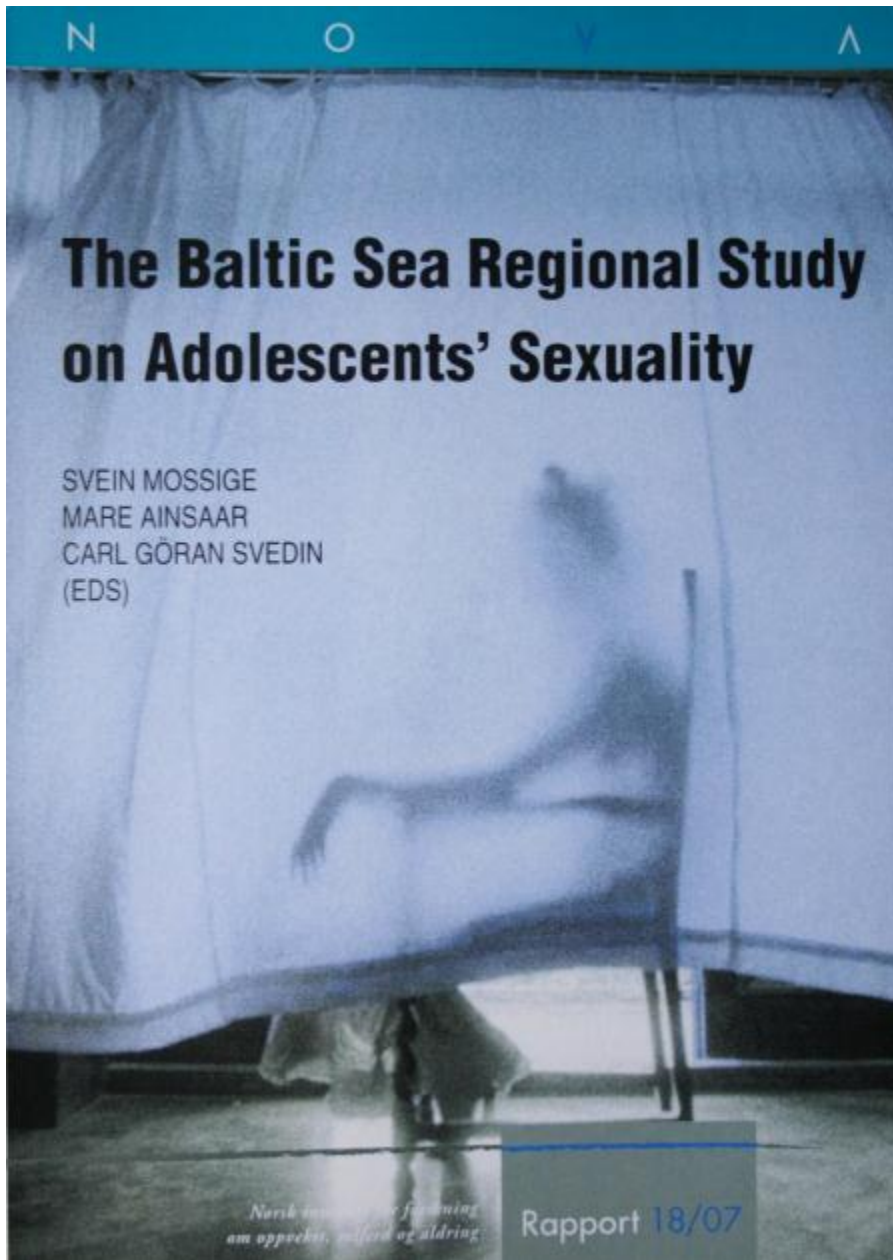
Year	Researcher	N	RR %	Age	Contact abuse boys/girls	Penetrating Abuse Boys/girls
1990	Edgardh & Ormstad	1943	92	<17 Diff	2.3/7.12	1.2/3.1
1995	Linton	949	68	<1 No diff	n.r./n.r.	0.8/1.1
1996	Steel & Herlitz	2810	69	<18 No diff	5.6/13.9	0.6/2.9
1997/98	Stenson et al	1083	93	<19 No diff	n.r/5.5	n.r/n.r
2003	Priebe & Svedin	4339	77	<18-19 No diff	18.5/58.3	5.5/13.5
2004	Holmberg & Hellberg	1428	84	<13-18 Diff	1.2/8.3	n.r/n.r
2004	Åslund et al	5048	80	<15-19 No diff	11.9/29.9	6.8/12.5
2009	Svedin & Priebe	3503	61	<18-19 No diff	5.1/20.5	3.1/10.0
2011	Cater et al	2500	10	<18 No diff	n.r./n.r.	2.1/7.4



Summary of Nordic studies

- 25 non-clinical studies between 1988-2013 with more than 500 participants
- Penetrativ abuse
 - girls 1,1 – 13,5 % (2.4 - 12.5%)
 - boys 0,3 – 6,8 % (0.6 - 6.5%)





20 979 adolescents
aged 16-20 years

www.nova.no

The Baltic Sea Regional Study on Adolescents' Sexuality

2003/2004

Sverige, Norge,
Estland, Litauen,
Polen, Nordvästra
Ryssland

20 000 participants



Sexual abuse experiences, girls

Item	Norway N=1966	Sweden N=1571	Lithuania N=1336	Estonia N=285	Poland N=1094	All N=6252
Somebody exposed him/herself indecently towards you	21.8	27.1	21.3	15.4	15.9	21.9
Somebody has touched your body in an indecent way	33.6	56.2	31.9	42.5	20.6	37.0
You have exposed yourself masturbating towards somebody	2.6	4.5	1.0	0.7	0.9	2.4
You have had sexual intercourse	9.7	9.2	13.3	7.0	8.4	10.0
You have had oral sex	7.0	5.4	4.6	4.2	4.8	5.5
You have had anal sex	3.6	2.1	1.6	2.5	2.5	2.6
Any form of penetration	14.1	12.1	15.3	9.1	10.7	13.0

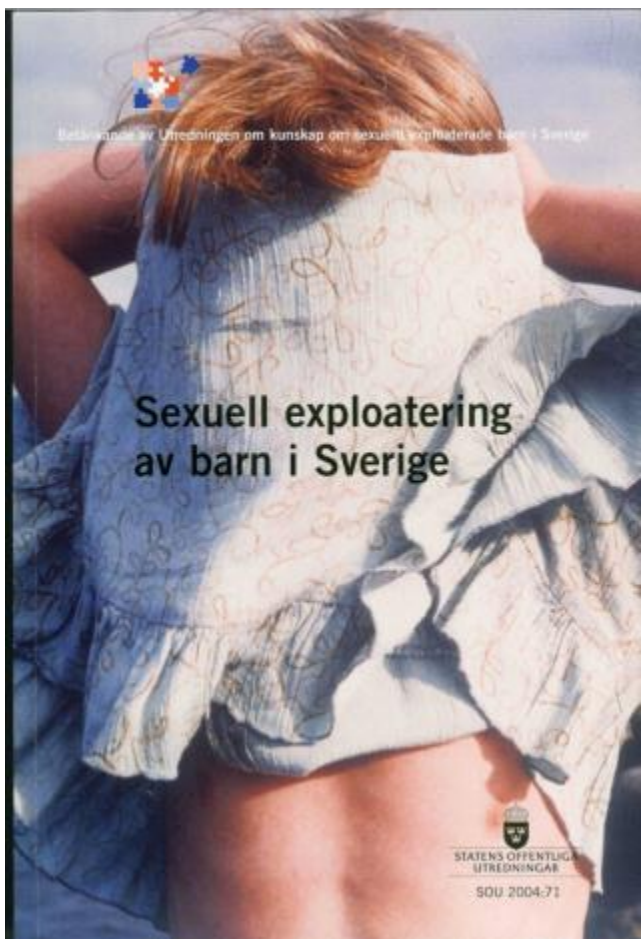


Sexual abuse experiences, boys

Item	Norway N=1397	Sweden N=1363	Lithuania N=976	Estonia N=297	Poland N=1253	All N=5286
Somebody exposed him/herself indecently towards you	14.5	8.2	14.8	7.7	21.5	14.2
Somebody has touched your body in an indecent way	17.7	14.0	12.0	10.1	23.0	16.4
You have exposed yourself masturbating towards somebody	4.7	3.0	2.3	0.3	7.7	4.2
You have had sexual intercourse	6.0	3.7	19.2	0	25.1	11.9
You have had oral sex	7.3	2.6	4.8	0.7	14.9	6.9
You have had anal sex	2.7	1.2	2.9	0	11.4	4.2
Any form of penetration	9.2	4.2	19.6	0.7	28.7	13.9



2004



2009



Child Sexual Abuse

- Sometimes people are persuaded, pressed or forced to do sexual activities that they cannot protect themselves from. The following questions are about such situations.
- Have you been exposed to any of the following against your will?



Comparison - Sweden 2004-2009

Sometimes people are persuaded, pressed, or forced to do sexual activities they cannot protect themselves from? Have you been exposed to any of the following against your will?	2004 girls/boys %/%	2009 Girls/boys %/%
Somebody exposed himself/herself indecently to you	27.4 / 8.5	9.1 / 2.5
You masturbated somebody else	4.9 / 3.0	3.2 / 1.9
You have had sexual intercourse (a)	10.5 / 4.7	8.1 / 2.6
You have had oral sex (b)	5.8 / 3.4	4.2 / 1.8
You have had anal sex (c)	2.5 / 1.6	1.7 / 1.0
Any form of “penetrative” sex (a,b,c)	13.5 / 5.5	10.0 / 3.1



Lifetime prevalence of sexual abuse/sexual assault using the JVQ (SAQ)

Item	Boys N= 3002 %	Girls N = 2959 %	cOR	CI 95%	p
Sexual victimization	10.6	33.3	2.4	2.1-2.6	<.001
1 Sexual assault by known adult	1.1	5.7	3.2	2.3-4.3	<.001
2 Nonspecific sexual assault	0.9	3.9	2.8	2.0-3.9	<.001
3 Sexual assault by peer	1.1	8.3	4.6	3.3-6.3	<.001
4 Rape: Attempted or completed	2.6	14.8	3.5	2.9-4.4	<.001
5 Flashing/sexual exposure	2.7	7.4	1.9	1.6-2.3	<.001
6 Verbal sexual harassment	6.3	18.1	2.1	1.8-2.3	<.001
1-4 Contact sexual victimization	3.9	21,3	3.5	3.0-4.2	<.001



Disclosure of sexual abuse, rates ($n = 1,493$)

Priebe, Svedin, 2007

Could talk to ...	Females	Males	χ^2 ($df = 1$)	p
	$n = 1,244$ (%)	$n = 249$ (%)		
Somebody	1,013 (81.4)	172 (69.1)	19.34	<.001
Mother	351 (28.2)	43 (17.3)	12.80	<.001
Father	160 (12.9)	34 (13.7)	0.12	.734
Sibling	187 (11.6)	29 (11.6)	1.92	.166
Friend of my age	781 (62.8)	111 (44.6)	28.58	<.001
Adult relative or friend	111 (8.9)	33 (13.3)	4.46	.035
Professional	117 (9.4)	7 (2.8)	11.85	.001
Other person	128 (10.3)	48 (19.3)	16.12	<.001
The incident was reported to social authorities or police	91 (7.3)	11 (4.4)	2.74	.098



Severity of sexual abuse and disclosure rates, girls (n = 1,244)

Could talk to...	Non-contact N = 116		Contact N = 848		Penetrating N = 280		p
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	
Nobody	6	(5.2)	153	(18.0)	72	(25.7)	<.001
Friend of my age	77	(66.4)	539	(63.6)	165	(58.9)	.267
Mother	76	(65.5)	232	(27.4)	43	(15.4)	<.001
Father	42	(36.2)	102	(12.0)	16	(5.7)	<.001
Sibling	35	(30.2)	125	(14.7)	27	(9.6)	<.001
Other person	12	(10.3)	85	(10.0)	31	(11.1)	.882
Professional	4	(3.4)	61	(7.2)	52	(18.6)	<.001
Adult relative or friend	18	(15.5)	72	(8.5)	21	(7.5)	.029
Reported to social authorities or police	17	(14.7)	47	(5.5)	27	(9.6)	<.001



(Priebe & Svedin, 2007)

Logistic regression for prediction of nondisclosure,

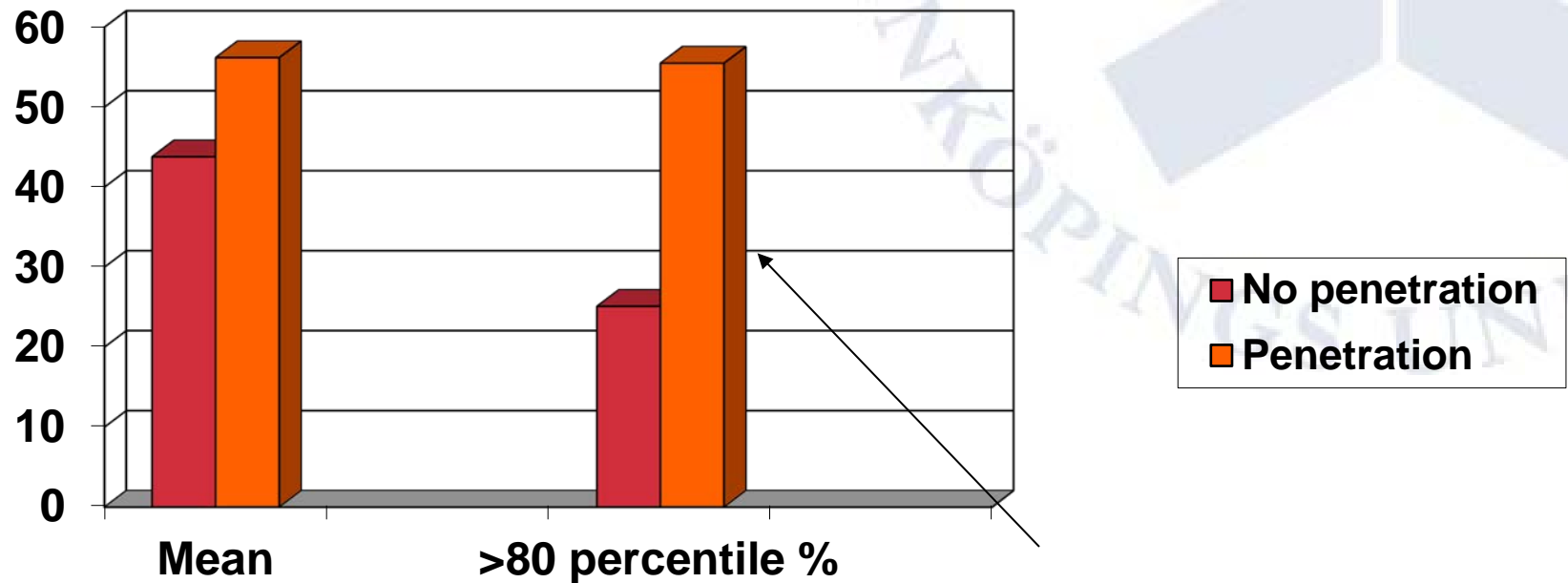
Item	Girls Adjusted OR	Boys Adjusted OR
Sexual abuse		
non-contact	4.1	
penetration	3.9	
more than five times	0.3	
family/relative	3.0	
friend/acquaintance	1.9	
Vocational education programme		3.2
Living with mom or dad		0.4
Family bonding		
High care, <u>high overprotection</u>		2.7
<u>Low care</u> , low overprotection	2.0	3.2
<u>Low care</u> , <u>high overprotection</u>	2.0	



**Therefore remains the most sexual
abuse undetected !!!**



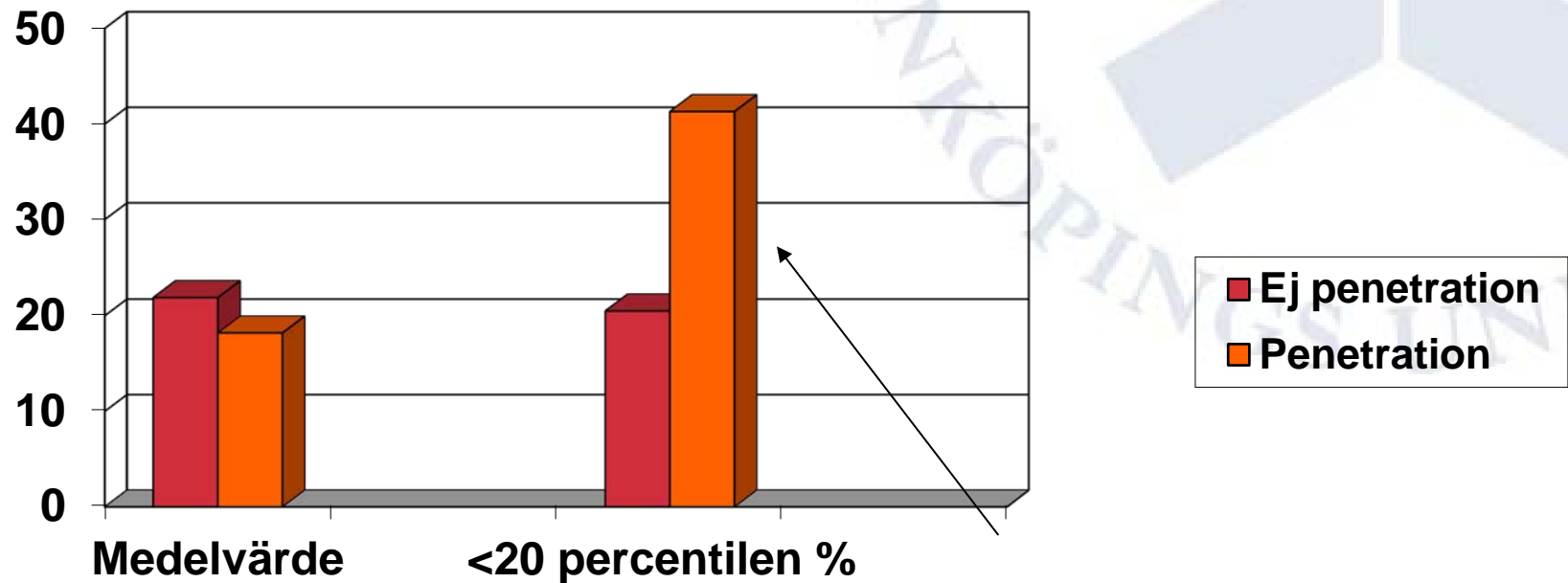
Sexual penetration and health (2009) (SCL-25)



OR=3,7



Sexual penetration and self-esteem (2009) (Rosenberg, 1979)



OR = 2.7

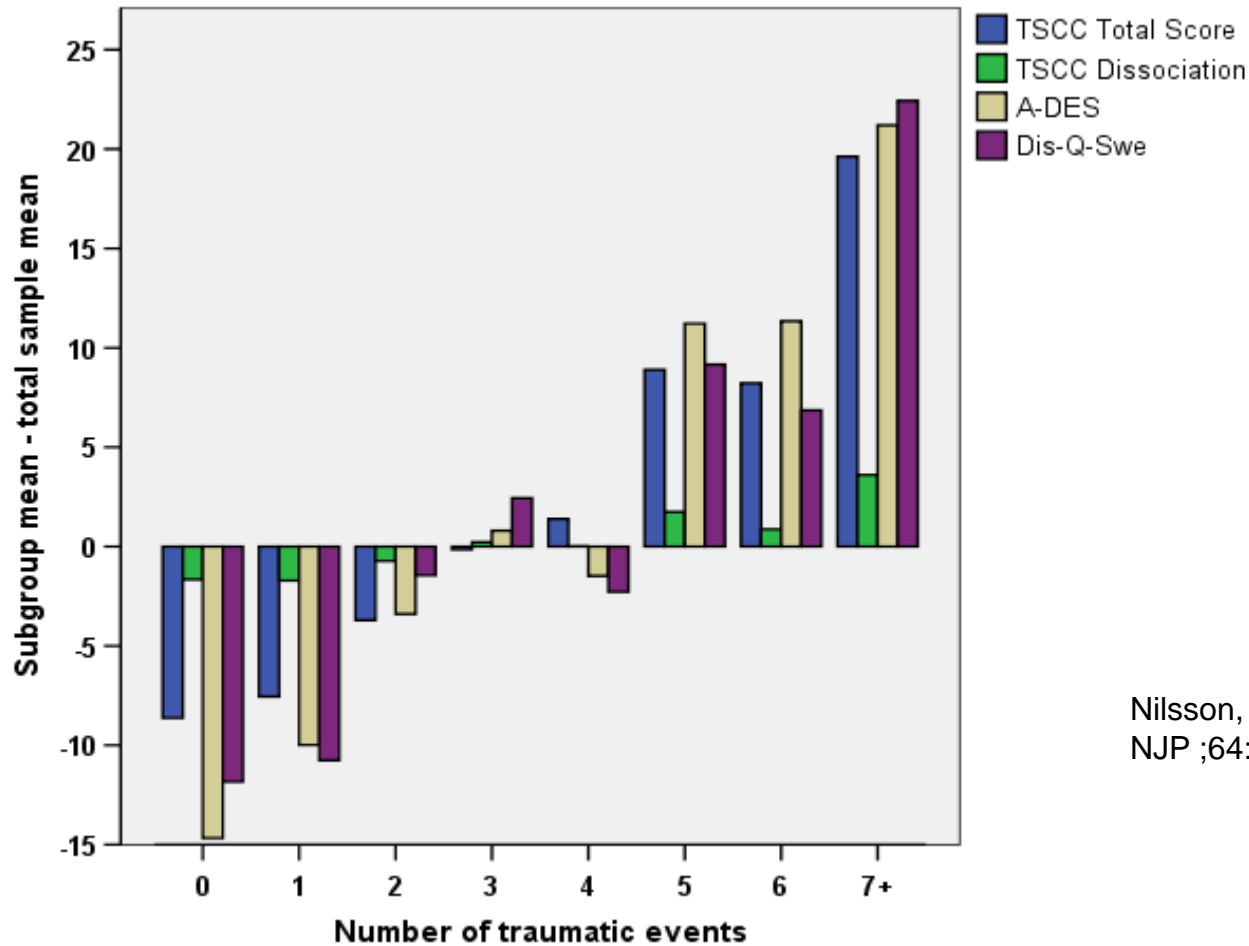


Polyviktisering



Figur:

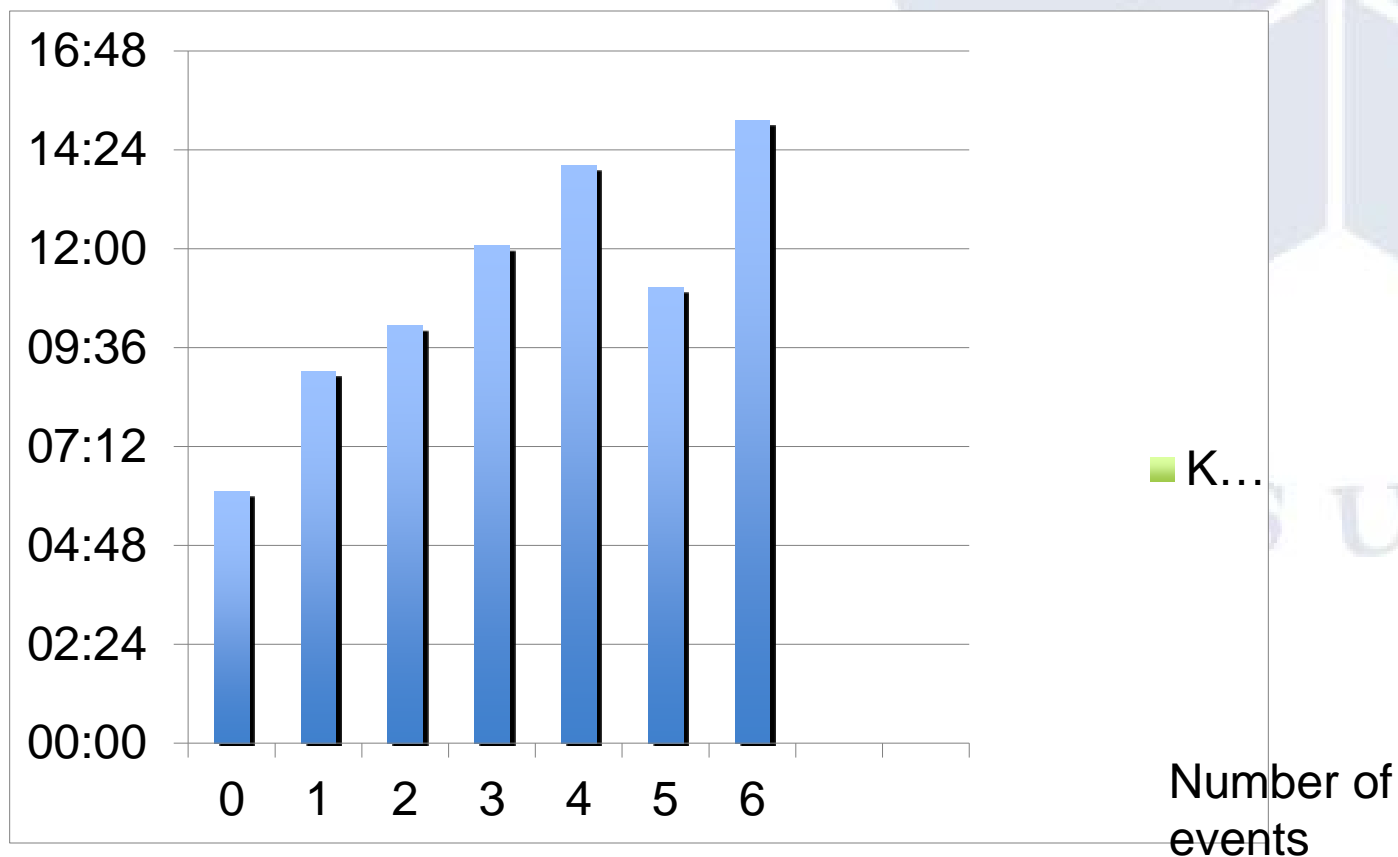
Symtoms (score minus the mean) by the number of traumatic events, for the TSCC total and dissociation subscale, A-DES, and DIS-Q scores (n=373).



Nilsson, Gustafsson, Svedin, 2010
NJP ;64:19-26

Sexual victimization, girls

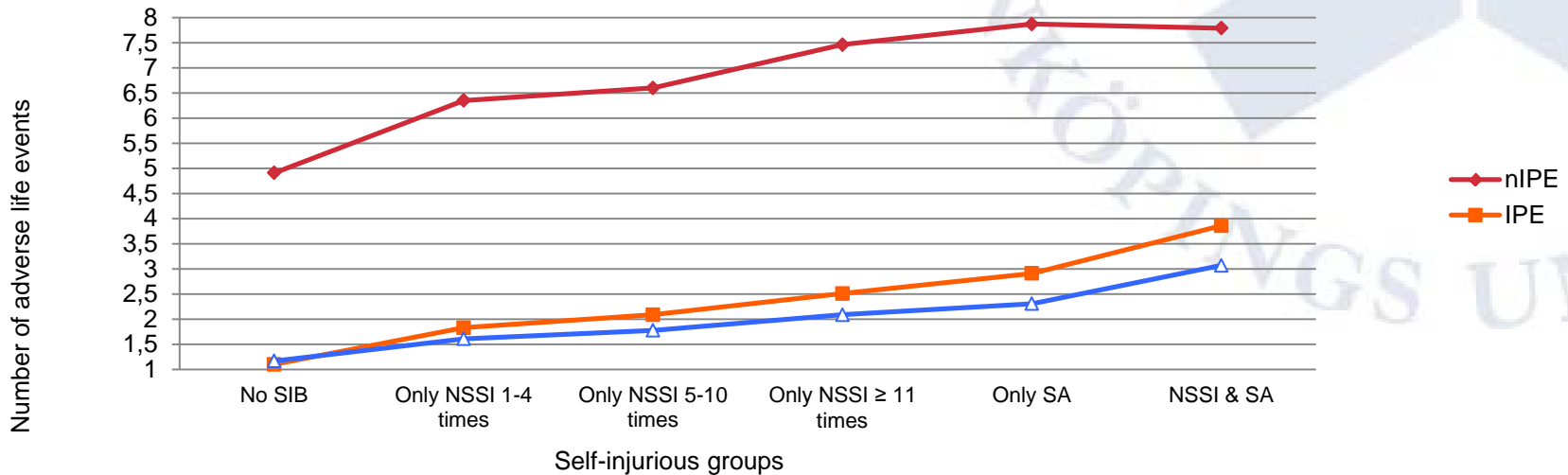
Mean score
PTS/TSCC



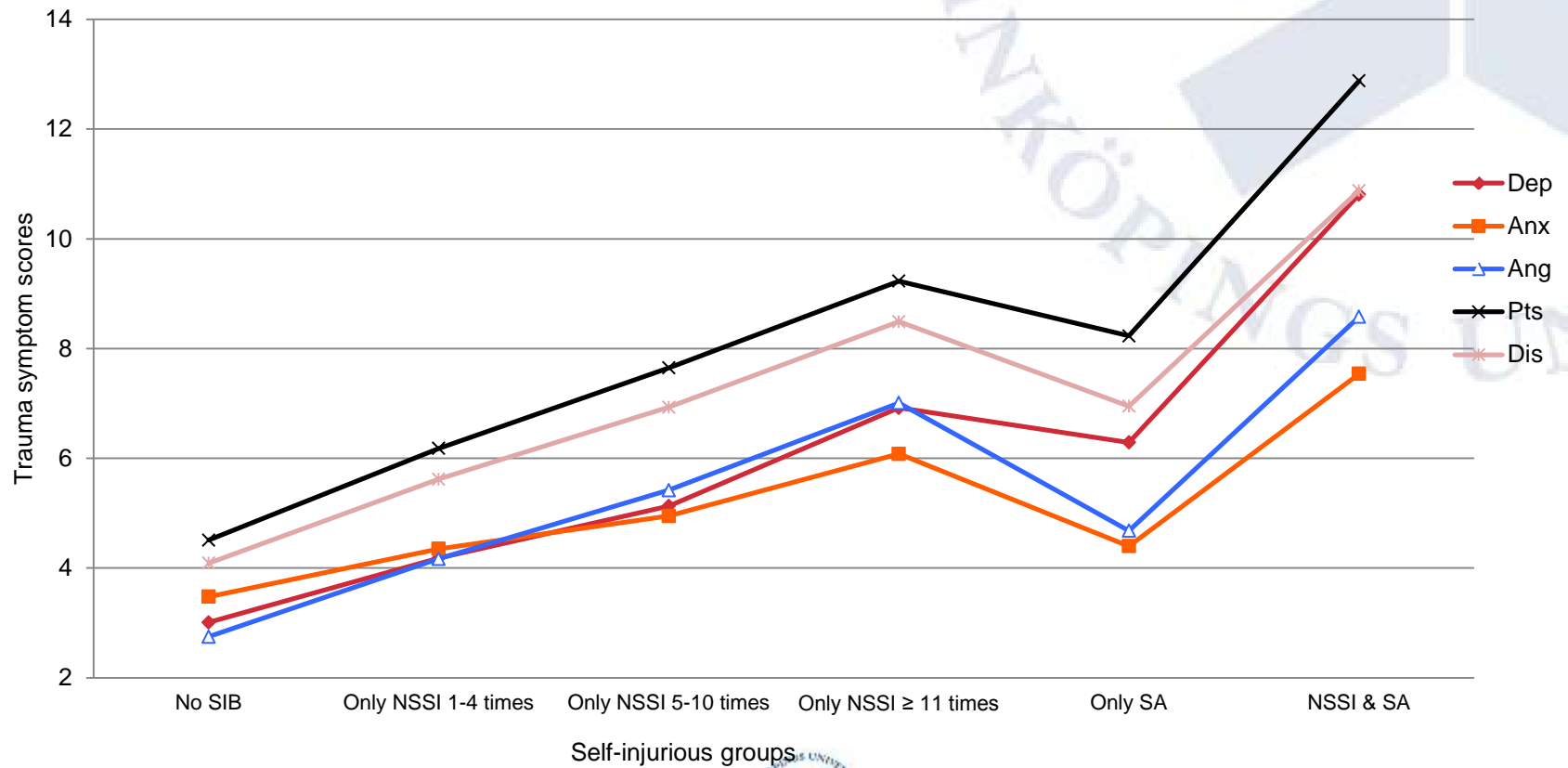
Non-Suicidal Self-Injury (NSSI) DSM-5

11.1% of girls and 2.3% of boys 15-17 years old

Figur 1 Adjusted means for adverse life events (non-interpersonal, interpersonal and adverse childhood circumstances) reported for different groups of self-injurers (N=2973)



Adjusted means for symptoms of depression, anxiety, anger, post-traumatic stress and dissociation reported for different groups of self-injurers (N=2973)



**Therefore you need to take a trauma
history !!!**



Barnahus CAC



Little House



1985



Barnahus Reykjavik, 1998

International CACs in Operation

- Australia
- Belarus
- Canada
- Croatia
- Cuba
- Denmark
- Greenland
- Guyana
- Iceland
- Israel
- Latvia
- Mexico
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Philippines
- Poland
- South Africa
- Sweden
- Turkey
- USA



Child Abuse in a Global Context

- United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child – numerous Articles relate directly to CAC/Barnahus Model
 - Article 3
 - Article 19
 - Article 34
 - Article 39



The primary guideline for Barnahus

➤ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 3.1:

"In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the child shall be a primary consideration. "



Establishment of barnahus

Government commission

2006-2007

NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

- Prosecutor-General
- National Police Board
- National Board of Forensic Medicine
- National Board of Health and Welfare



Establishment of barnahus

Government commission

AIM BARNAHUS:

- Target group: children - victims of crime
- The child should be interviewed, examined and evaluated in one (childfriendly) place
- Better collaboration/coordination between the involved authorities
- Improve the quality of the police investigation and psychosocial (social and therapeutic) interventions concerning the child



Establishment of barnahus

NATIONAL GUIDELINES

PRESENTED BY THE NATIONAL
AUTHORITIES 2009

- Target group:
 - All children under 18 who are victims of crime
 - child abuse, sexual abuse
 - Witnesses of domestic violence



Establishment of barnahus

NATIONAL GUIDELINES

2009

- Consulting meeting: spec. prosecutors, spec. policemen, social workers, somatic medicine (paediatrics/gynecology), child psychiatry
- Child protection services participate in the child interview
 - Asses the child need of protection/support
- Offered crisis support of skilled and experienced staff.



Establishment of barnahus





- The guidelines = a recommendation
 - The local authorities take independent decisions
 - Budget & agreements
- No new legislation (no new from the justice department)
- No budget

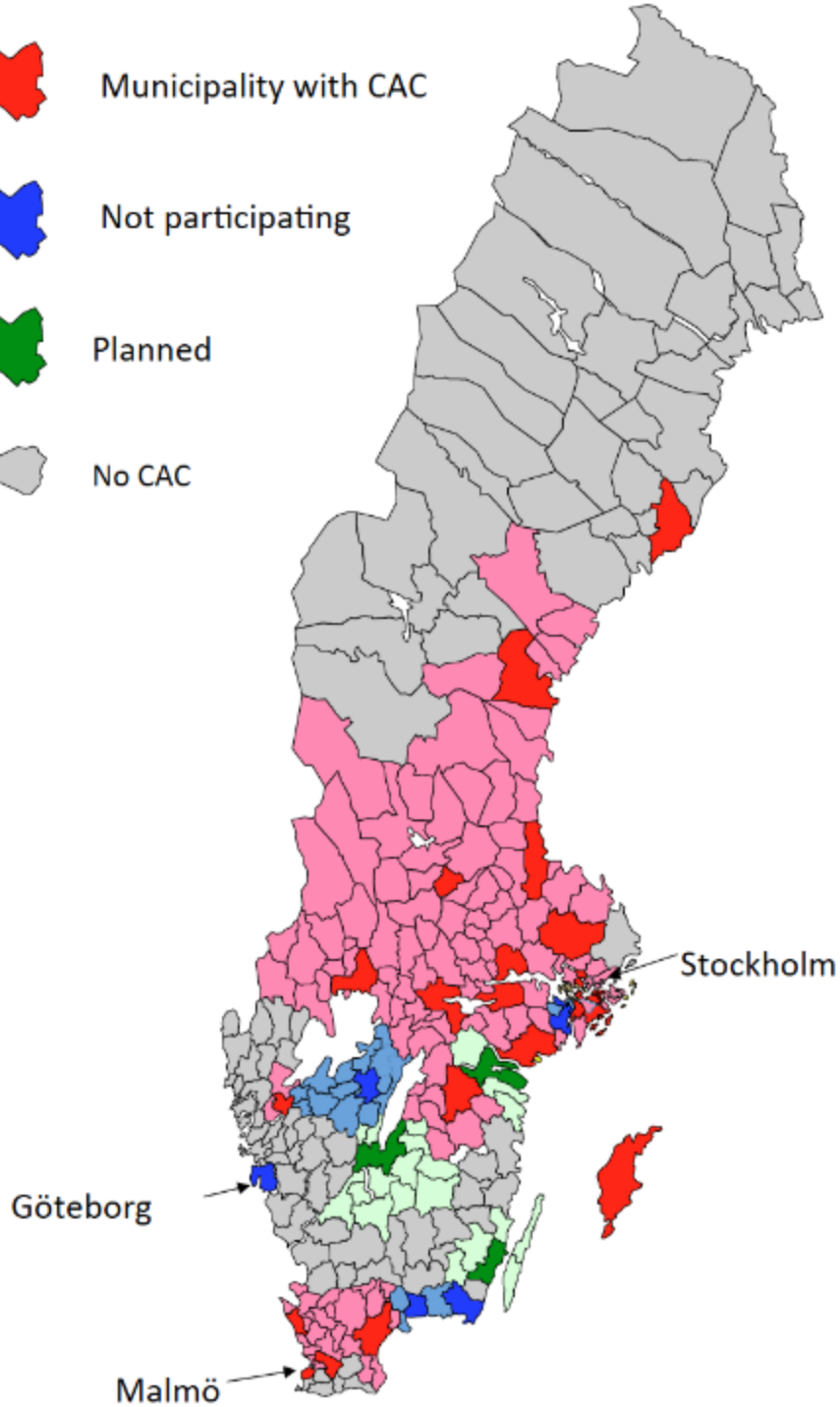


Barnahus in Sweden today

- 2004 – 2014 0 → 31 Barnahus
 - depends of what we call Barnahus
- No national demands/criteria' s
- The variations are still large
 - which authorities are represented in Barnahus
 - which authorities are represented in the consulting meetings (samråd) differs



-  Municipality with CAC
-  Not participating
-  Planned
-  No CAC



**Development
2005-2013**

UNIVERSITY

Organizational structure

- 30 are run by the site municipality sometimes in close cooperation with the police authorities (5)
- 1 is run by the County Council (Linköping)
- Today **31** CAC covering 187 of 290 communities (64%, or 80% of the child population)





Linköping



Lund



Trollhättan



Gävle

10 standards for Child Advocacy Centers



1: Child-Appropriate/Child-Friendly Facility



- A Children's Advocacy Center provides a comfortable, private, child-friendly setting that is both physically and psychologically safe for diverse populations of children and their families.

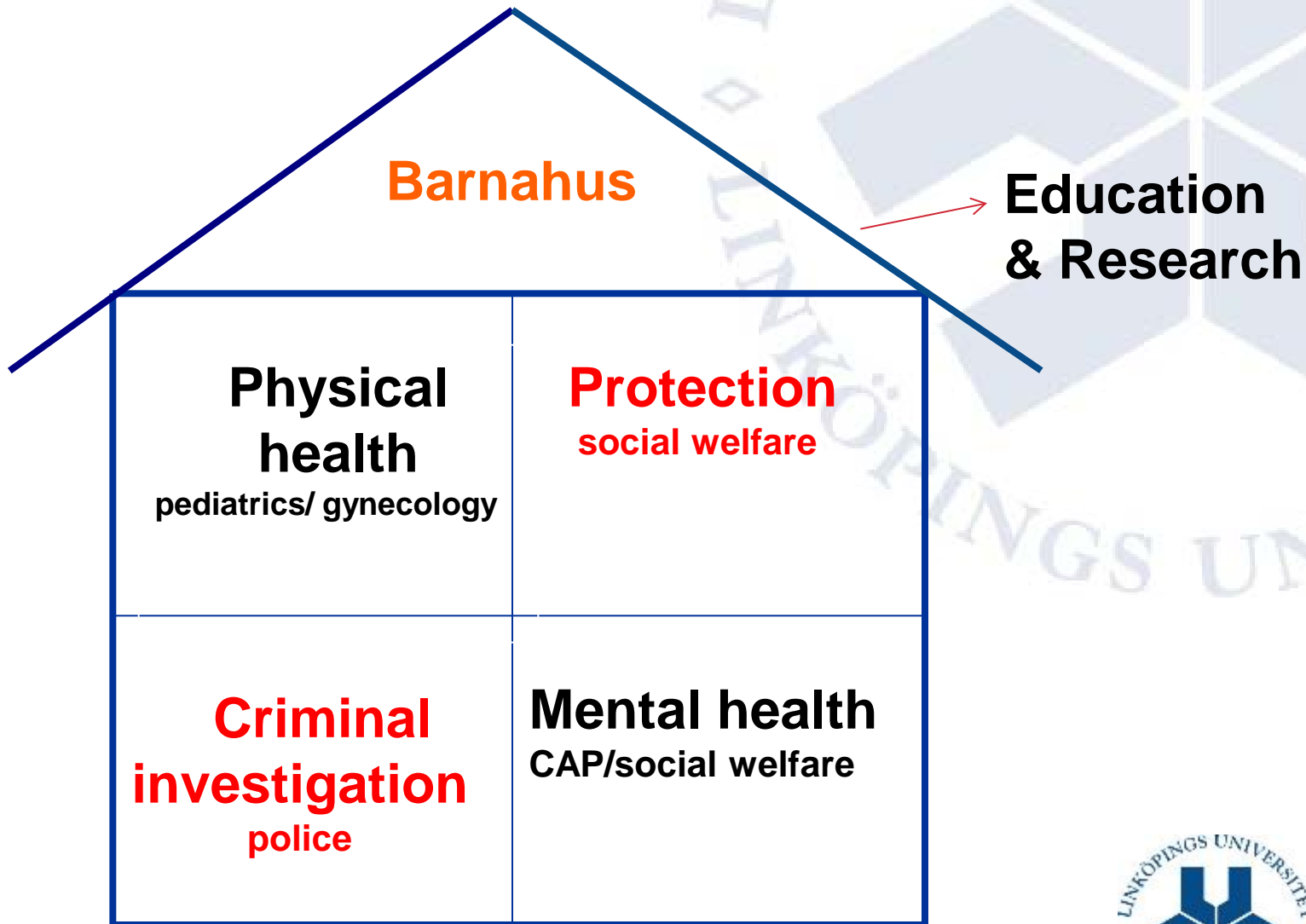
-All referrals to the CAC come from either law enforcement or child protective services



2. Multidisciplinary Team

- Standard: A multidisciplinary team for response to child abuse allegations includes representation from the following:
 - **Child Protective Services** – is the child safe? Are other children at risk?
 - **Medical** – is there evidence of abuse? Does the child need treatment?
 - **Mental Health** – does the child/family need mental health services? What type of service would help the most?
 - **Victim Advocacy** – What else might we be able to do to support this family?
 - **Law Enforcement** – has a crime been committed?
 - **Prosecution** – can I prove the case in court?





Waitingroom for young children



3. Forensic Interviews

Standard: The CAC promotes forensic interviews which are legally sound, are of a neutral, fact-finding nature, and are coordinated to avoid duplicative interviewing.

Interview



Observation



4. Medical Evaluation

- Standard: Specialized medical evaluation and treatment services are available to all CAC clients and coordinated with the multidisciplinary team response to provide follow-up referrals and/or treatment as necessary.



Article 39

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to promote physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of a child victim of: any form of neglect, exploitation, or abuse; torture or any other form of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; or armed conflicts. Such recovery and reintegration shall take place in an environment which fosters the health, self-respect and dignity of the child.

INUTI ETT **BARNAHUS**

EN KVALITETSGRANSKNING AV 23 SVENSKA VERKSAMHETER



A quality review of
Swedish Barnahus -
2012.
Strengths and
weaknesses



Linköpings universitet
HÄLSÖUNIVERSITETET



Rädda Barnen

Aim

- Develop a Swedish manual for quality evaluation of Swedish Barnahus
- Anchor the quality criteria among Swedish Barnahus
- Assessment of Swedish Barnahus
- Presenting the results – the Report.
Who meets the requirements?
 - What will it take to get there for the rest?



Barnahus

N=23

**Physical
health**

**Protection
Social welfare**

**Criminal
investigation
Police**

**Mental
health
CAP/social welfare**

Barnahus

Type C: Activity in two
of the rooms = 3

Type B: Activity in
three rooms = 16

Type A: Activity in all
four rooms, or all
necessary components
= 4



Recommendation

- Barnahus is a great model!
- Develop all Barnahus to achieve type-A level
- Expand the target group!
- Barnahus for all children!
- Establish Lex Barnahus!



Challenges

- Social Services: Improve procedures regarding protection and information!
- Police: Investigate in time! Education for all interviewers !
- Health care: Take responsibility for children's mental and physical health!
- A common challenge: Focus on the child's best interest

